

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1247

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: LUNS' REPORT TO NATO PERMREPS ON HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: A. USNATO 1183 (NOTAL) B. USNATO 1117 (NOTAL)

1. CONVERSATION AT MARCH 4 PERMREPS LUNCH WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY DEVOTED TO SYG LUNS' MORE PERSONAL REPORT ON HIS RECENT U.S. VISIT, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH HE HAD OUTLINED TO THE COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 28 (REF B). AMBASSADORS ALSO HAD A LENGTHY EXCHANGE ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION TO THE PCERMREPS TO VISIT WASHINGTON. THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS DISCUSSION IS SET FORTH IN REF A.

2. LUNS LEFT NO DOUBT THAT HE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH HIS WASHINGTON VISIT AND WITH THE RECEPTION ACCORDED HIM BY THE PRESIDENT, BY THE SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE, BY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DONALD RUMSFELD, AND BY OTHER SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS, CONFIDENTIAL

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ESPECIALLY INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS. HE SAID HE WAS

PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH EVIDENCE HE ENCOUNTERED IN EVERY QUARTER THAT THE UNITED STATES REGARDS ITS NATO RELATIONS AS

THE CORNER STONE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

3. LUNS SPOKE LITTLE ABOUT SUBJECTS HE CHOSE TO RAISE IN HIS MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON OTHER THAN TO TELL THE AMBASSADORS THAT EVERYWHERE HE WENT AND ON EVERY POSSIBLE OCCASION BOTH IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC CONVERSATIONS HE HAD SPOKEN A) OF THE "DISASTROUS EFFECTS OF NATO" STEMMING FROM THE CUTTING OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY, AND B) MORE GENERALLY OF OTHER PROBLEMS FLOWING FROM GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTES OVER CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN SEA INCLUDING OIL COMPLICATIONS. LUNS' REPORT ON SUBJECTS THAT U.S. OFFICIALS RAISED WITH HIM AND ON VARIOUS IMPRESSIONS HE GAINED WAS SELECTIVE AND DID NOT PRETEND TO REFLECT THE PRIORITIES IN WHICH TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED OR THE LENGTH OF TIME DEVOTED TO EACH.

4. GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS.

LUNS DEVOTED A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF HIS BRIEFING TO THE SUBJECT OF HIS GREECE-TURKEY WATCHING BRIEF AND HOW HE HAD REMARKED TO THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY, UNDER SECRETARY SISCO, AND TO A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS UPON HIS DISSATISFACTION WITH THE EVENTS WHICH HAVE FRUSTRATED THE DISCHARGE OF HIS PERSONAL WATCHING BRIEF ROLE. HE SAID HE DISCUSSED THIS UNHAPPINESS AT LENGTH WITH DONALD RUMSFELD AND HE HAD ASKED THAT THE UNITED STATES KEEP HIM CURRENTLY INFORMED OF EVENTS IN THAT AREA. LUNS SAID SECRETARY KISSINGER ASKED HIM TO CONTINUE PATIENTLY WITH HIS ROLE IN THE HOPE OF FUTURE USEFULNESS. PERMREP DEAN DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) INTERVENED TO ENCOURAGE LUNS TO FOLLOW SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ADVICE IN THIS MATTER. BOTH THE GREEK AND TURKISH AMBASSADORS (THEODOROPOLOUS AND ERALP) EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE THAT LUNS NOT ABANDON HIS WATCHING BRIEF.

5. OTHER TOPICS.

--LUNS WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S EXPOSITION ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS WHICH HE TERMED "BRILLIANT." HE SAID HE FOUND SISCO SLIGHTLY PESSIMISTIC BECAUSE OF THE MANY DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN THE PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE EGYPTIANS HAVE SHARP DIVERGENCES OF VIEWS WITH THE SYRIANS AND THE RUSS-
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SIANS.

--LUNS REPORTED ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ABOUT WEAPONS STANDARDIZATION, AND HE INFORMED PERMREPS THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER THAT STANDARDIZATION BE THE SUBJECT OF A DEFENSE MINISTERIAL MEETING DURING 1976.

--THE SYG'S OUTSTANDING IMPRESSION FROM HIS LUNCHEON WITH THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF WAS THE CONVERSATION HE HAD ABOUT THE RATE OF GROWTH OF THE SOVIET NAVY AND MERCHANT MARINE.

--LUNS INFORMED PERMREPS ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER ABOUT REIMBURSEMENT TO NATO OF PART OF THE \$100 MILLION FRELOC PAYMENT FRANCE WILL MAKE TO THE UNITED STATES.

--THE SYG SPOKE OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER ABOUT "DISCRIMINATIONS" HE FELT WERE BEING EXERCISED AGAINST CERTAIN EUROPEAN AIR CARRIERS. LUNS SAID HE HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT THESE CIRAIR MATTERS WOULD BE STUIDED AND MEANWHILE THE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO THEM WOULD REMAIN STATIC.BRUCE

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